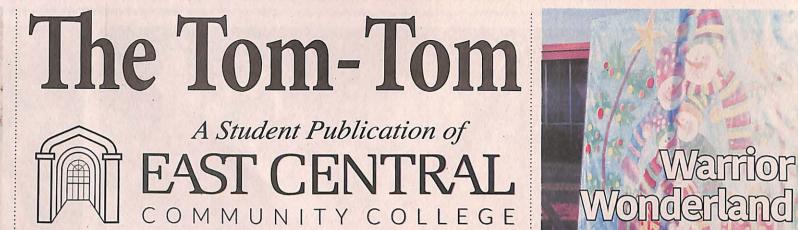
Thanksgiving Break Nov. 25-29



# ECCC named a top 150 U.S. Community College

The Aspen Institute College Excellence Program today named East Central Community College as one of the 150 community colleges in the nation eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the signature recognition of high achievement and performance among community colleges in the United States.

Based on strong and improving in student outcomes-including in learning, completion rates, employment rates and earnings, and equity-15

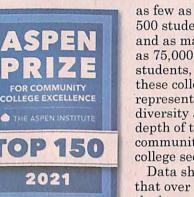
percent of community colleges nationwide have been invited to apply for the Aspen Prize, which is awarded every two years.

Volume 71

"What an incredible honor to be recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of the 150 best community colleges in the nation," said Dr. Billy Stewart, president of East Central Community College. "This recognition, which focuses on the success of our students, is a direct result of the commitments we made as an institution in 2020 Vision and a fulfillment of our vision to be

nationally recognized." The 150 community colleges named today as eligible to compete for the 2021 Aspen Prize were selected from a pool of nearly 1,000 public twoyear colleges

nationwide using publicly available data on student outcomes. Located in 39 states in urban, rural, and suburban areas, serving



years, student retention, graduation rates, and degree completion have improved at the top tier of the 150 Aspen

500 students and as many as 75,000 students, these colleges represent the diversity and depth of the community

college sector. Data show that over the last two

November 2019

Prize-eligible colleges.

"Community colleges play a vital role in developing talent and enabling social mobility across the country, and it's critical for them to get better at what they do," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "We're pleased to see evidence that these institutions are improving, that more are delivering on their promise. We're also pleased to play a role in honoring outstanding community colleges and sharing what works to ensure great outcomes for students-through graduation and beyond.

Dec. 6

The top ten finalists for the 2021 Aspen Prize will be named in May 2020. The Aspen Institute will then conduct site visits to each of the finalists and collect additional quantitative data, including employment and earnings data. A distinguished jury will make award decisions in spring 2021.

For a full list of the top 150 eligible institutions and to read more on the selection process, visit www.highered.aspeninstitute.org/aspen-prize.



## **Breland named 2019** Homecoming Queen

Sophomore biology-occupational therapy major Parker Breland of Union, a graduate of Union High School, was crowned the 2019 Homecoming Queen during halftime ceremonies Oct. 17 in Bailey Stadium on the ECCC campus.

Randy Cleveland of Fort Worth, Texas, retired Vice President Americas of ExxonMobil Corporation, and Linda Kelly Shep-

and Alumna of the Year and Pam Green Hampton of Quitman, a former included a scavenger hunt, movie night, college worship, a pancake party and student tailgaiting.





EC PHOTOS

Above, Parker Breland, second from left, was named 2019 Homecoming Queen. Pictured with her are EC President Dr. Billy Stewart, her escort Will Chambers, and the 2018 Homecoming Queen Jasmin Cole. Below left are Homecoming honorees Randy Cleveland, Linda Kelly Shepard, Pam Green Hampton, and Barry Irons. Below right was ASNEC 's winning sign for the annual sign competition.



ard of Carthage, retired Leake County Chamber of Commerce Director, were recognized as Alumnus and Alumna of the Year, and Pam Green Hampton of Quitman, a former Lady Warrior basketball standout, and Barry Irons of Philadelphia, a former Warrior football standout, were inducted into the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame.

The Class of 1969 celebrated its 50th reunion, and the first Alumni Band was assembled to play during pre-game and halftime ceremonies.

The No. 6 ranked Hinds Eagles used a touchdown in the final seconds of regulation and a field goal in the first overtime to hand the East Central Warriors a heartbreaking 23-20 football defeat and spoil Homecoming 2019.

In the week leading up to the halftime festivities were student events including the annual sign painting, where ASNEC took home this year's first place prize. Other events



THORNE

## EC's Thorne remembered as a great friend

Laura Reeves Thorne, longtime business office accountant at East Central Community, died Sept. 23, 2019, after a short illness. She began her employment at the college in 1991.

Mickey Vance, vice president for business operations at the college, said, "Laura will be missed tremendously. She not only was a great co-worker, but also a great friend. She was a very dedicated employee See THORNE, PAGE 2

# May balances time between teaching and Lazy Acres

Cathy May, is a mathematics instructor and serves as department chair for math and computer science at East Central Community College. In her time away from the classroom, May, along with her family, owns and operates Lazy Acres Plantation in Chunky. It started off as a simple

Christmas tree farm, but with inspiration from her daughter, Mikayla, and husband, Michael, they have turned it into a place where thousands of families come out every year to create memories that last a lifetime and they look forward to adding even more. "I just love watching families come



out and have a good time," May said. She's been doing

this since 2001 and has enjoyed everything about it.When they were approached about taking over the farm, May and her husband knew they had to do it. She said they just couldn't let someone else own the farm. The pumpkin

patch and corn maze were added to the tree farm first, followed by the the Easter egg hunt and then nighttime activities during various seasons. May and her family are all about making Lazy Acres a loving and fun

place for all ages. Each year, they host See LAZY ACRES, PAGE 2



WARRIOR POST RECEIVES DONATION - East Central Community College's Warrior POST (Providing Others Support Together), a food pantry coordinated by the college's Theta Chi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, recently received a donation from the Union chapter of WoodmanLife, which included a cash contribution as well as numerous bags of nonperishable food items. Warrior POST provides free non-perishable food items and other life necessities to currently enrolled ECCC students with demonstrated need. Pictured are (from left) WoodmanLife representatives Rita Tullos, Terry Tullos, Maxine Lott (Union chapter secretary), and Felicia Blackburn; and ECCC Phi Beta Lambda students Camilla Addy and Hannah Stokes. PBL is a national business education association for students interested in careers in business and business-related fields. For more information on Warrior POST, please visit www.eccc.edu/warrior-post or contact PBL sponsor Christy Ferguson at cferguson@eccc.edu or 601-635-6292.

Page 2

The Tom-Tom: A Student Publication of East Central Community College November 2019



- ECCC ANNOUNCES FALL 2019 PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTEES - Several East Central Community College students were inducted into Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of two-year colleges, during receremonies Sept. 24 on the Decatur campus. Inductees and their hometowns include (front row, from left) Addison Hobson, Philadelphia; Karlye Tolbird, Decatur; Sarah Sanders, Hickory; Kiera Morgan, Chunky; Jasey Duncan, Lake; Taylor Smith, Philadelphia; Britney Patton, Decatur; and Karli Blackledge, Hickory; (second row, from left) Saebreanna Macon, Forest; Casea Cheatham, Philadelphia; Olivia Adams, Philadelphia; Landree Amis, Conehatta; Aryanna Stephens, Morton; Alison Watson, Collinsville; Victoria Wright, Little Rock; and Molli Childs, Louisville; (third row, from left) Delaney Haralson, Conehatta; Connor Boggan, Hickory; Tori Seale, Philadelphia; Carly Greenwood, Philadelphia; Natalie Breazeale, Philadelphia; Sarah Perry, Carthage; MacKenzie Lee, Carthage; and Bria Hunt, Louisville; and (fourth row, from left) Johnathan Clark, Philadelphia; Robert Ward, Philadelphia; Luke Alexander, Little Rock; Zach McLain, Philadelphia; Peyton Reeves, Decatur; Tia Hunt, Louisville; Sarah Burns, Carthage; and Braeden Yarbrough, Forest. Not pictured are Tripp Blasingame, Lawrence; Riley Goforth, Philadelphia; Jenna Moore, Carthage; and Lindsey Price, Morton. To qualify for PTK, students must have completed at least 12 hours of coursework that may be applied to an associate degree and must have a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher. Director of Housing and Student Activities Dr. Amanda Walton, Mathematics Instructor Jenna Wright, and Dean of Students James Miller serve as advisers.





### SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Above, Cathy May, center, with her husband, Michael and daughter Mikayla May Carey with their popular christmas tree farm in the background. At right, grandaughter Ryn Carey shows off their pumpkin patch.

LAZY ACRES

company picnics, wed-

dings, family reunions,

'It was really sweet,"



students and her co-workers. But when asked if she will ever go to Lazy Acres full time, her response was, "Yes! As soon as I retire!"

Between teaching and making sure everything at Lazy Acres runs smoothly, May says her life is stressful and tiring.





EC PHOTO

SBA SELECTED - East Central Community College Student Body Association and class officers selected for the 2019-20 school year include (seated, from left) Student Body President Matthew Riley of Brandon, Student Body Vice President Kayla Baucum of Newton, and Student Body Secretary Bryce Callie Leach and Student Body Treasurer Lydia Bishop, both of Sebastopol; and (back row, from left) Freshman President Jorian Jackson of Morton, Freshman Vice President Sarah Burns of Carthage, Freshman Secretary Jasmin Brooks of Collinsville, Freshman Treasurer Alana Mc-Mullan of Decatur, Sophomore President Giuliana Donato of Carthage, Sophomore Vice President Jordan McLemore of Lake, Sophomore Secretary Kaeleigh Thompson of Brandon, and Sophomore Treasurer Gavin Bailey of Decatur. Dr. Amanda Walton, director of housing and student activities, serves as SBA sponsor.

As much as May enjoys her time at Lazy Acres, teaching has always been something she loved. When she was little, she would play school, and she was always teaching math. When May entered college she started off as a Chemical Engineering major, but her love for teaching won out.

"Math and teaching is where my heart was. I enjoy watching them learn. Not just math, but morals and values too."

May loves working at ECCC and said her favorite thing about EC is the

'My brain never slows down," she said. But she enjoys doing it all.

Checking the Lazy Acres website lazy-acres. com reveals the farm's history, events and even some great pictures of others who have been going to Lazy Acres for years. There are pictures of weddings, bunny patches and school tours. The website can also be used to book events at certain times and reveals a list of fun things the whole family can enjoy.

- Deeja Gates

## **UPCOMING FINE ARTS EVENTS**

### **COLLEGIANS CONCERT** Nov. 18, 7 p.m. Huff Auditorium

**CONCERT CHOIR/VOCE CONCERT** Nov. 19, 7 p.m. Clarke-Venable Baptist Church

## **GOSPEL CHOIR CONCERT**

Nov. 20, 7 p.m. Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium

**FINE ARTS** CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m. Huff Auditorium

## EC honors faculty, staff member of the year during convocation

at ECCC

Chem-

since

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Instruc-

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Decatur

received

the Ex-

cellence

Denson of

East Central Community College presented new awards to start the new academic year on campus to recognize the college's faculty and staff member of the year.

Regena Boykin of Conehatta, associate director of information technology, received the Excellence with Class Award as the outstanding staff member and a \$500 check from the ECCC Foundation. Boykin has been employed

## From Page 1

of the College for 34 years and took much pride in her work. Her talents extended to her community and her church, as well. Laura will always be remembered for her kind and caring demeanor."

Derek Pace, director of information technology at ECCC, said, "In addition to being classmates at East Central, Laura and I worked together for over 23 years. Laura was one of the hardest working in-

a \$500 check from the dividuals that I have ever known and she paid great attention detail. She was excellent at her job. More importantly she was one of the most thoughtful and caring individuals that I have known. No matter how difficult the situation, you could always count on Laura for a smile, chuckle, or laugh. Laura was not just a coworker, she was a dear friend. She is and will continue to be greatly

BOYKIN

in Teaching & Learning

Award as the outstand-

ing faculty member and

Laura is survived by her husband Johnnie Thorn of Decatur; two sons, No. lan (Katie) Thorne of

ECCC Alumni Association. Denson joined the ECCC faculty in 2013. The awards

were



at the 2019 Faculty and Staff Convocation held in Huff Auditorium on

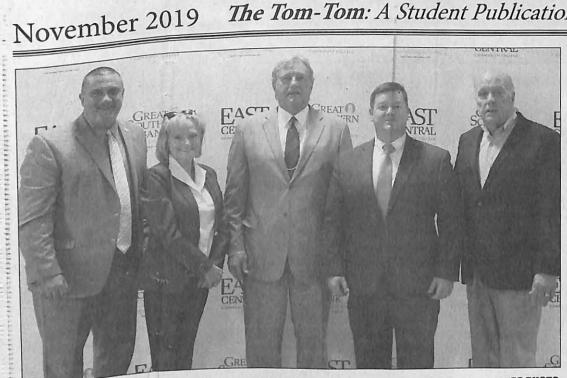
Starkville

Thorne of Decatur; her father, Ray Reeves of Decatur, one sister, Susan Horton of Decatur, and one brother, Mike Reeves of Decatur; and her fatherin-law EL Thorne.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Annette Reeves, and motherin-law, Ramona Thorne. She Was a graduate of Decatur High School, East Central Community College, and Mississippi State University. She was a member of Clarke-Ven-Students Must Wear IDs at ALL TIMES.

### The Tom-Tom: A Student Publication of East Central Community College

Page 3



EC PHOTO

SEN. HYDE-SMITH PARTICIPATES IN DEDICATION - U.S. Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith SEN. HYDE left) of Mississippi was among those helping East Central Community Col-(second from left) of Mississippi was among those helping East Central Community Col-(second from any celebrate the college's new Diesel Equipment Technology program lege and its partners celebrate the college's new Diesel Equipment Technology program lege and its period during ceremonies held Friday, Aug. 23, at the former U.S. Motors Plant and new facility during ceremonies held Friday, Aug. 23, at the former U.S. Motors Plant and new lacency and la site in Prillace, pastor of West Philadelphia Baptist Church, who gave the invocation; John Scott Boatner, pastor for USDA Burel Development in the Scott Boards, state director for USDA Rural Development in Mississippi; and David Vowell, Rounsaville, state Community Development Partnershin Th Rounsavino, the Community Development Partnership. The project was a joint effort bepresident. The project was a joint effort be-tween ECCC, the city of Philadelphia, Neshoba County, Community Development Partnership, and USDA Rural Development. For more information on the Diesel Equipment Technology program, which runs from August to July each year, contact Wayne Eason, director of Career & Technical Education, at 601-635-6210 or email weason@eccc.edu.

## **East Central Community College** again named great college to work for

East Central Community College is again one of the best colleges in the nation to work for according to the annual survey of college and university employees by The Great Colleges to Work For program.

The results were released today in a special insert of The Chronicle of Higher Education.

ECCC has been recognized by The Great Colleges to Work For program in three of the past four years.

Only 85 of the institutions that applied for the program achieved 2019 Great College to Work For recognition for spe-cific best practices and policies. ECCC was one of only four community

colleges in Mississippi and

nized in the categories of Compensation and Benefits, for pay that is fair and benefits that meet the needs of employees, and Teaching Environment, where faculty members say the institution recognizes innovative and high-quality teaching.

"To be recognized three out of the last four years as a great place to work by such a respected program in higher education is a wonderful accomplishment for East Central Community College," said ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "It is one indication that 2020 Vision is having a positive impact on one of the most valu-able resources we have at East Central-our em-

ployees." The survey results



Great Colleges to Work For is anonymous employee feedback is particularly rewarding."

Now in its 12th year, The Great Colleges to Work For program is one of the largest and most respected workplace-recognition programs in the

country. For more infor mation and to view all the results of the survey. visit the Great Colleges to Work For program website at www.greatcol-

Leaders of Promise Scholar East Central Community College sophomore Caleb Collins of Clinton is one of 207 Phi Theta Kappa members named a 2019 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Collins is an engineering major and a graduate of Clinton High School.

The Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program helps new Phi Theta Kappa members defray educational expenses while enrolled in associate degree programs. Scholars are encouraged to assume leadership roles by participating in PTK programs and are selected based on scholastic achievement community service, and leadership potential. Nearly 900 applications

were received. A total of \$207,000 awardad through



COLLINS amount is supported

of the

United

States

by donations to the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation and provides seven Global Leaders of Promise Scholarships, earmarked for international students.

"The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation has a long history of providing financial assistance to outstanding students

at community colleges," said Jane Hale Hopkins, president of the Coca-Co-"We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa, make it possible for more deserving students to

college completion, but also give students the opportunity to engage in PTK programs and develop leadership skills to become future leaders in their communities.

"Research shows that Phi Theta Kappa members are four times more likely to complete a college degree than their peers," said Dr. Monica Marlowe, executive director of the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation. "The Leaders of Promise Scholarships recognize students for what they have achieved already and assure that financial need isn't an obstacle to achieving their academic goals."

Phi Theta Kappa is the achievement of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars



EC PHOTO

ECCC PBL ELECTS OFFICERS FOR 2019-20 - East Central Community College's Theta Chi chapter of Phi Beta Lambda recently elected officers for the 2019-20 school year on the Decatur campus. Shown, from left, are Jerry Davidson of Union, social media representative; Hannah Stokes of Philadelphia, vice president; Tucker Cain of Carthage, president; and Brian Pace of Collinsville, parliamentarian. PBL is a national business education association for students interested in careers in business and business-related fields.

Collins named 2019 Coca-Cola

Great College to Work For recognition for specific best practices and policies. ECCC was one of only four community colleges in Mississippi and one of only 22 two-year schools in the nation to be honored this year by The Great Colleges to Work For program. In all, only seven two-year or fouryear colleges and universities in the state received recognition.

Results were reported for small, medium, and large institutions, with East Central Community College included among the small institutions with 2.999 or fewer students.

The Great Colleges to Work For survey rates institutions on 12 categories in the fields of leadership, careers, the workplace, and compensation.

East Central was recog-

having a positive impact on one of the most valuable resources we have at East Central-our emplovees."

The survey results were based on a two-part assessment process: an institutional questionnaire that captured employment data and workplace policies, and a survey administered to faculty, administrators, and professional support staff. The primary factor in deciding whether an institution received recognition was the employee feedback.

Stewart added, "The credit for this honor goes to the entire East Central family who are responsible for making our college a great place to work. The fact that the primary factor in deciding whether a college or university is recognized as one of The

country. For more information and to view all the results of the survey. visit the Great Colleges to Work For program website at www.greatcollegesprogram.com.

ModernThink, a strategic human capital consulting firm, administered the survey and analyzed the results.

"The institutions recognized in this year's Great Colleges to Work For program don't wait for problems to occur to pay attention to their people," said Rich Boyer, senior consultant at ModernThink, "Conversely, they're intentional (and successful!) in being good stewards of their institutions' cultures and shaping the day-to-day experience of their faculty and staff to the ultimate benefit of their students."

scholastic achievement. community service, and leadership potential. Nearly 900 applications were received.

A total of \$207,000 is awarded through the Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation provides \$200,000 in funding for the scholarships, with \$25,000 set aside for members

said Jane Hale Hopkins, president of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. "We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa, make it possible for more deserving students to achieve their educational goals, and support tomorrow's leaders of the global community."

The funds provided by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation not only aid

FUI I neta trappa is t premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The society is made up of more than 3.5 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 nations. Learn more at ptk.org.

## **Recent ECCC graduate selected for Rural Dentists Scholarship Program**

Andrew Weir, a May 2019 graduate of East Central Community College, has been selected to participate in the undergraduate portion of the Mississippi Rural Dentists Scholarship Program (MRDSP).

A native of Newton and graduate of Newton County High School, Weir is currently a junior at Mississippi College. He is the son of Sam and Karla Weir of Newton.

Created in 2013 by the Mississippi Legislature, MRDSP identifies up to seven college sophomores and juniors who demonstrate the necessary commitment and academic achievement to become competent, well-trained rural pediatric or general dentists in the state.

The program offers two years of undergraduate academic enrichment including DAT (Dental

Admission Test) preparation and clinical experience in a rural setting. Upon

com-WEIR pletion

of all dental admissions requirements, the student can be admitted to the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry.

During dental school, each MRDSP scholar may receive \$35,000 per year based on available funding. The program will award nine scholarships in 2019-2020 totaling \$315,000. With continued legislative support, the program hopes to grow to 12 scholarship totaling \$420,000 by 2020. Additional benefits include personalized mentoring

from practicing rural dentists and academic support.

After completing dental school, MRDSP scholars must practice general or pediatric dentistry in a rural, medically underserved community. The MRDSP scholar must provide dental services as determined by the MRD-SP in a full-time clinical practice in an approved Mississippi community of 10,000 or fewer population located more than 20 miles from a medically served area.

The MRDSP provides a means for rural Mississippi students to receive DAT preparation, benefit from mentoring, learn the art of oral healthcare from practicing rural dentists, and earn a \$140,000 dental school scholarship in return for four years of service.

WORDS OF A WARRIOR What is your favorite form of social media?



NATHAN LAMPLEY Sophomore Major: Psychology Hometown: Louisville

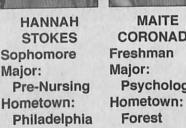


JACOB ROBINSON Sophomore Major: Major: Psychology Hometown: Noxapater TikTok



BO TARLTON Sophomore HVAC Hometown: Preston

Facebook



Major:

Snapchat Instagram

MAITE CORONADO Freshman Psychology



### THIRTEEN QUESTIONS Zach Langley, Assistant Band Director

Why did you choose to be a band director? Music was a way of escape

Page 4

for me in middle/high school. It also provided me with a lifetime of memories and friendships. My senior year I even got to travel to Hong Kong for an international band competition with the Mississippi Lions All State Band, in which we won. I chose to be a band director so that I could be that positive force in someone's life that my band directors were for me. "There is no substitute or replacement for music making as it relates to the positive growth and development of the human, body, and spirit. Participation in band avails the musician to the infinite journey of creative expression connecting to a language (music) that is understood, communicated, and appreciated by all of mankind around the globe. More importantly, MUSIC IS A PLACE FOR EVERONE." – Tim Lautzenheiser

Which instrument is your specialty? My "main" instrument is trombone. Fun fact: I also play trombone in a Rock/Soul group out of Laurel called Down&Good

What is your favorite class to teach? Right now, my favorite

classes are my instrumental lessons. It is fun to watch these students grow musically and personally as we embark on the journey to make them better musicians.

### ■ What is your favorite band show you've been a part of, either as a participant, or a director?

Every show I have directed has a special place in my heart. I would say my "favorite" was the year my band did a retelling of story Romeo & Juliet titled "Star Crossed Love"... with a modern twist. It had voice over actors recorded out of England to help tell the story and music from Tchaikovsky to the modern day Dub step genre. The show was the crowd favorite at every band competition/football game we attended.

■ In regards to the new band hall, what are you most looking forward to?

Having enough room and storage to provide our students with an adequate/optimal learning environment. The plans look great and I can't wait to see the building process as it unfolds.

Can you dance the "Git Up"?

I am going to be honest and say I despise that song.

What's the top song on

your playlist right now? Guardians of the Galaxy -The complete Mixtape. It has some great music that I keep on shuffle.

### ■ What's your favorite snack food?

Not a "food" necessarily, but COFFEE. Coffee is life.

If you were dropped on a deserted island, what one thing would you like to have with you?

Either a hammock to fully enjoy my experience or the TARDIS... because who wouldn't want one of those?

What has been the biggest difference in teaching band at the high school level versus community college?

This biggest difference for me would be the fact that I can teach "music for music's sake". To many times at the high school level do we let competing at state championships or state evaluation drive our band programs. It is easy to let our quest for trophies and recognition take away from the entertainment of marching band and put the musicality of our students on the back burner.

Who is the most interesting person you've met in your time so far at EC?



"The Man, The Myth, The Legend" Ed Girling, of course! I cannot say I have met another person like him on this campus.

What is the best part of your day?

Anytime we have the full Wall O' Sound together. Seeing so many students working hard and having a good time while doing it is refreshing.

What one thing do you hope students take away from being in the band at ECCC?

I hope that students will take away our passion and love for

music from being in band at ECCC. Music is something that you can carry with you and even be involved in for the rest of your life. I hope my students will find ways to stay involved with the arts, whether it be playing in a church orchestra, little theaters, community band etc. I also hope my students will look back on their experiences here at ECCC and think of the memories we have created as positive influences in their lives. While we might come from different places, we are family; we are the East Central Community College Wall O Sound.

# New rides, games to highlight EC's 4th Warrior Wonderland

After having to cancel last year's event due to inclem-ent weather, East Central Community College is excited to announce the 4th Warrior Wonderland scheduled Dec. 6, 2019 on the Decatur campus. New rides and games will highlight this year's edition of this special celebration of Christmas, which will begin immediately following the Decatur Christmas Parade, about 6:30 p.m., and conclude by 8:30 p.m.

Following the parade, activities will kick off with a fireworks display and visitors will have a variety of activities from which to choose.

Foosball, Hippo Chow Down, Meltdown, Wrecking Ball and Mindwinder.

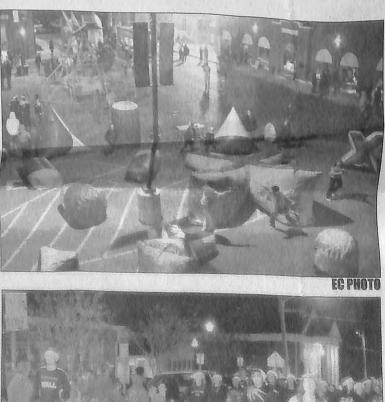
The Mississippi National Guard will once again partner with the college and provide a gaming trailer, football toss, basketball toss, baseball toss, and punch machine.

"We hope everyone will come out and enjoy the activities and fun our campus community has planned for this special holiday evening at East Central," said East Central Community College president Dr. Billy Stewart. "It's always a joy to partner with our local commu-nities, especially during the Christmas season."

East Central Community College music groups, including the Collegians, Vocé, Concert and Jazz

will be performing throughout the night on the





ride, and five new rides and games including Human Foosball, Hippo Chow Down, Meltdown, Wrecking Ball and Mindwinder.

The Mississippi National Guard will once again partner with the college and provide a gaming trailer, football toss, basketball toss, baseball toss, and punch machine.

"We hope everyone will come out and enjoy the activities and fun our campus community has planned for this special holiday evening at East Central," said East Central Community College president Dr. Billy Stewart. "It's always a joy to partner with our local communities, especially during the Christmas season." East Central Community College music groups, including the Collegians, Vocé, Concert and Jazz bands, will be performing throughout the night on the music stage and the college's art department will host a "Christmas Karaoke" booth for those who wish to participate.

There will be a Selfies with Santa station, and various specialty, food, and drink booths sponsored by

The Tom-Tom is a student publication of East Central Community College in Decatur, Miss. It is published by the Office of Public Information. For more information, contact the staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS, 39327 or by phone at 601-635-2111, ext. 364, or toll free at 1-877-462-3222. Accreditation East Central Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award the Associate Degree. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of East Central Community College. Notice of Non-Discrimination East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or qualified disability in its educational programs and activities, employment practices, or admissions processes. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies of East Central Community College:

Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI, ADEA, and Title IX are coordinated by Dr. Teresa Mackey, Vice President for Instruction, Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building, Room 171, Post Office Box 129,

Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6202, Fax: 601-635-4011, tmackey@eccc.edu.

Inquiries regarding compliance with Section 504 and ADA are coordinated by Dr. Randall Lee, Vice President for Student Services, Eddie M. Smith Student Union, Room 201, Post Office Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone: 601-635-6375, Fax: 601-635-3247, rlee@eccc.edu.

> Adviser: Amy Thompson

> > COLLEGE

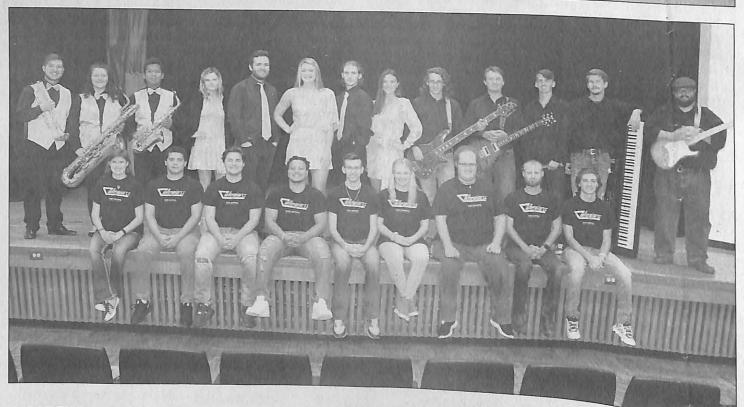
OMMUNIT



ECCC student organizations.

For more information, contact Dr. Amanda Walton, ECCC director of housing and student activities, at 601-635-6213 or email awalton@eccc.edu.





COLLEGIANS IN CONCERT – The East Central Community College Collegians rock and roll band will present its fall COLLEGIANS IN CONCERT – The East Central Community College Collegians rock and roll band will present its fall Description of the Decatur Campus. Admission is free and the fall of the Decation of the Dec collegians in concert – The East Central Community Conege Concerts Foor and four band will present its fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18, in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Admission is free and the fall campus concert at 7 p.m. Monday morel Members in Kenny Wayne Charles and the pub-campus concert at a plant of the popular group will be performing find by a cost matcher, bady Gaga, Kenny Wayne Shepherd lic is invited to attend. The popular group will be performing find by a cost matcher, bady Gaga, Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstall, and many more! Members include (front row, Shepherd Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstall, and many more! Members include (front row, from Shepherd Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstall, and many more! Members include (front row, from Shepherd Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstall, and many more! Members include (front row, from Shepherd Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstall, and many more! Members include (front row, from Shepherd Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstall, and many more! Members include (front row, from Shepherd Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstall, and many more! Members of Decature Distribution of Hoster in the state of the s lic is invited to attend. The per-Band, Gabby Barrett, Camila Cabello, Dishwalla, KT Tunstan, and then y there is include (front row, from lepnerd technicians Audrey Pugh of Newton, Jerry Davidson of Union, Riley Hardy of Starkville, Danté Windham of Kirom left) Must of Philadelphia, Braeden Nabers of Louisville, Malcolm Chambers of Decatur, Devin Sims of Heidelburg, Band, Gabby Barrett, Garma Structure, Davidson of Union, Filey Flargy of Statistine, Dante Windham of V, from lett) technicians Audrey Pugh of Newton, Jerry Davidson of Union, Filey Flargy of Statistine, Dante Windham of V, from lett) Blake Wyatt of Philadelphia, Braeden Nabers of Louisville, Malcolm Chambers of Decatur, Devin Sims of Heidelburg, Blake Wyatt of Philadelphia, Braeden Nabers of Louisville, Malcolm Chambers of Decatur, Devin Sims of Heidelburg, Blake Wyatt of Starkville: and (back row, left) musicians Angel Mondragon of Forest (Trumpet), Lauren Oil technicians Audrey Pugn of Roman, and Bake Wyatt of Philadelphia, Braeden Nabers of Louisville, Malcourt Ghambers of Decatur, Devin Sims of Philadelphia, Blake Wyatt of Philadelphia, Braeden Nabers of Louisville, Malcourt Ghambers of Decatur, Devin Sims of Philadelphia, and Will Hardy of Starkville; and (back row, left) musicians Angel Mondragon of Forest (Trumpet), Lauren Gilmer of Brack (Tonor Say) and Jovani Mondragon of Forest (Alto Sax); vocalists Harley Pullin of Preston, Lauren Gilmer of Blake Wyatt of Philadelphia, Diacourt the and Will Hardy of Starkville; and (back row, left) musicians Anger Worklagor of Porest (Trumpet), Lauren Gilmer of Little Rock (Tenor Sax), and Jovani Mondragon of Forest (Alto Sax); vocalists Harley Pullin of Preston, Lauren Gilmer of Little Rock (Tenor Sax), and Jovani Mondragon of Forest (Alto Sax); vocalists Harley Pullin of Preston, Lauren Gilmer of Little Rock (Tenor Sax), and Jovani Mondragon of Forest (Alto Sax); vocalists Harley Pullin of Preston, Lauren Gilmer of Little Rock (Tenor Sax), and Jovani Mondragon of Enterprise, and Bryce Lott Leach of Sebastopol; and musici of Philadelphia (Guitar), Lance Sanders of Louisville, and musici and Will Hardy of Starkville, and (back the Little Rock (Tenor Sax), and Jovani Mondragon of Forest (Alto Sax), vocalists trailey Pullin of Preston, California Gilmer of Little Rock (Tenor Sax), and Jovani Mondragon of Forest (Alto Sax), vocalists trailey Pullin of Preston, Landon Gilmer of of Louisville, Abby Wells of Noxapater, Logan Little of Enterprise, and Bryce Lott Leach of Sebastopol; Andon Weeks of Louisville (Bass), Dylan Chunn of Philadelphia (Guitar), Lance Sanders of Louisville (Drums), Maxicians Little Rock (Tenor Sax), and Jovann Wohld Eg of Louisville, Abby Wells of Noxapater, Logan Little of Enterprise, and Bryce Lott Leach of Sebastopol, Landon Weeks Devin Reed of Louisville (Bass), Dylan Chunn of Philadelphia (Guitar), Lance Sanders of Louisville (Drums), and musicians that Consents (Keyboards), and Fine Arts Division Chair/Instructor Chas Evans, who serves as director and thanof Louisville, Abby Wells of Noxapater, Logan Devin Reed of Louisville (Bass), Dylan Chunn of Philadelphia (Guitar), Lance Sanders of Louisville (Drums), and musicians cock of Conehatta (Keyboards), and Fine Arts Division Chair/Instructor Chas Evans, who serves as director and also

Check out ECCC on social media Check out December of the second seco

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# Warrior Athletics Leigh White named head softball coach at East Central

Longtime Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges and state championship-winning coach Leigh White is the new head softball coach at East Central Community College.

White comes to the Decatur college after leading the Pearl River Community College program for 16 years, including a second place finish in the 2019 MACJC State Tournament and the right to host the 2019 National Junior College Athletic Association Region 23 Tournament. She guided the Lady Wildcats to 10 straight appearances in the MACJC State Playoffs, including the program's only state championship in 2010.

She takes over an ECCC softball program steeped in history, including 16 consecutive postseason appearances, five straight years finishing in the final NJCAA Top 20 Poll, and three trips to the NJCAA Division II Softball Championship since the college began playing fastpitch softball in 2004. "I am humbled and honored to be the new softball coach at East Central Community College," said White. "I am very excited for this new chapter in my career and thankful to ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart, Director of Athletics Paul Nixon, and the entire college family for the opportunity to lead these young ladies. I'm ready to get started!"

ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart said he was "excited to welcome Coach White to the East Central family."

"Her coaching philosophy will fit well with our college's emphasis on Excellence and Class," said Stewart. "I look forward to the positive impact she will make in the lives of the young ladies blessed to be a part of the Lady Warrior softball team for many years to come."

A native of Quitman, White was a standout softball, basketball, and tennis player for the Quitman High School Lady Panthers. She began her collegiate softball career at Jones County Junior College, where she helped lead the Lady Bobcats to MACJC State Championships in 1996 and 1997 and an NJCAA Region 23 Championship and a berth in the NJCAA Division II Softball Championship in 1996. She was named MACJC All-State and NJCAA All-Region 23 both seasons with Jones County.

White then played at Southern Wesleyan University in Central, S.C. The Lady Warriors won the Georgia Alabama Carolina Conference title in 1998 and advanced to NAIA regional play. She was named the team's Best Defensive Player her senior season.

In 2000, White served as a graduate assistant softball coach at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, before being named the assistant coach at Pearl River in 2001. White took over as head coach of PRCC in 2003.

"Coach White brings over 20 years of experience in the MAC-JC as a student-athlete, assistant coach, and longtime head coach," said ECCC Director of Athletics Paul Nixon. "She has



the proven ability of building a program that will remain competitive over many seasons. As she mentioned in her interview, East Central is ideally located with the championship-level softball programs in our district and the proximity to recruit the entire state. Her passion for developing student-athletes in every area of their lives is exactly what our softball program needs to continue our long-running tradition of excellence both on and off the field."

White holds an Associate of Arts degree from Jones County, a Bachelor of Science in physical education/therapeutic recreation from Southern Wesleyan, and a Master of Science in sports administration from the University of Southern Mississippi.







### **EC PHOTOS**

EC PHOTOS Top photo, 20 sophomore football players were honored prior to the Warriors' home football game Oct. 10 against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Those recognized were Top photo, 20 sophomore lootball players Zachery, tight end Dontrell Green, defensive back Fred McGee, linebacker Elijah Keyes, tight end Ray Thomas, wide receiver Depodray front row, from left, wide receiver Jaylen Zachery back Tyrese Winford, linebacker Anthony Blakely, wide receiver Josh Perkins, and linebacker Bouton Depodray front row, from left, wide receiver out, out of the back Tyrese Winford, linebacker Anthony Blakely, wide receiver Josh Perkins, and linebacker Payton Rogers; and back row, from Coburn, defensive back Quintin Powell, back Chandler Roberts, running back Marq Qualls, linebacker Ronnie Thomas, offensive lineman Carrington Device Device State of the back o Coburn, defensive back Guillan Forming back Chandler Roberts, running back Marq Qualls, linebacker Ronnie Thomas, offensive lineman Carrington Davis, offensive lineman Fabian left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, running back Sam Cox, punter Steven Anderson, defensive lineman Alvin Dempsey, and manager Caleb McCowon. Above the lineman Fabian left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Turning Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Stark tow, normal left, Head Coach Ken Karcher, Stark tow, Normal left, Head Stark tow, Normal left, Head Stark tow, Normal left, Head Stark tow, Head Stark tow, Normal left, Head Stark tow, Head St Pickering, offensive lineman Tykeen boss, Monor oan oos, pande offensive meman Avin Dempsey, and manager Caleb McGowan. Above, left, the 2019 Lady Pickering, offensive lineman Tykeen boss, Monor oan oos, pande offensive meman Avin Dempsey, and manager Caleb McGowan. Above, left, the 2019 Lady Pickering, offensive lineman Tykeen boss, Monor oan oos, pande offensive meman Avin Dempsey, and manager Caleb McGowan. Above, left, the 2019 Lady Warrior soccer sophomores honored between the women's and men's matches with Hinds on Friday, Oct. 11, in Decatur were from left, forward Leah Anderson, defender Macayla Warrior soccer sophomores honored, goalkeeper Emily Pitts, midfielder Lia Richardson, midfielder Macey Spencer, defender Hayden Sullivan, defender Ali Grace Wall Warrior soccer sophomores nonored between and very midfielder Lia Richardson, midfielder Macey Spencer, defender Hayden Sullivan, defender Ali Grace Walker, and forward Johnson, defender Katelyn Morson, goalkeeper Emily Pitts, midfielder Lia Richardson, midfielder Jake Cockroft, defender/midfielder Joel Hill, and midfielder Terrell Johnson Johnson, defender Katelyn Morson, goancoper and a song and been honerason, maneuer Macey Spencer, defender Hayden Sullivan, defender Ali Grace Walker, a Amelia Whitfield. Above right, the 2019 Warrior soccer sophomores were from left, midfielder Jake Cockroft, defender/midfielder Joel Hill, and midfielder Terrell Johnson.

# Leah Anderson has career year for Lady Warrior soccer team



East Central sophomore forward Leah Anderson had a big year with the Lady Warriors.

Anderson of Leyland, United Kingdom, was voted the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Women's Soccer Player of the Week for the week of Sept. 23-29 after picking up her second hat trick of the season.

Anderson scored three goals to help the Lady Warriors defeat Gulf Coast 5-1 on Sept. 24 in Decatur. She followed that with East Central's only goal in a 2-1 home loss to Jones College on Sept. 27.

She also scored a hat trick with three goals in a 5-0 win at Southwest on Aug. 30.

Along with the MACJC honors, Anderson received national recognition when she was named the United Soccer Coaches Junior College Women's Player of the Week on Oct. 8. Founded in 1941, the United Soccer Coaches is the largest community for soccer coaches in the world. On Friday, Oct. 18, Anderson

scored her 16th goal of the season and 22nd of her two-year career to tie the all-time career goal mark as the Lady Warriors defeated visiting Dyersburg State 4-1, in the regular



ANDERSON

season finale at the Soccer Pitch on the ECCC campus.

She scored 16 goals in 16 matches this season. She had six goals a year ago. Anderson is tied for the most goals in a career with Brooke White, who tallied 22 goals in the 2006 and 2007 seasons. She is in second place in most goals in a season. Sierra Maness scored 17 goals for the Lady Warriors in 2016. Page 6

The Tom-Tom: A Student Publication of East Central Community College November 2019

## **SPORTS BRIEFS**



### ECCC TENNIS PLAYERS FIND SUCCESS IN ITA SOUTHERN REGIONAL

East Central Community College men's and women's tennis players combined to win 22 matches over a threeday period while competing individually in the ITA Southern Regionals Sept. 26-28 at the Northeast Park Tennis Center in Meridian.

East Central sophomore Chris Lawrance (York, Western Australia) made it to the Singles Finals, while Lawrance and doubles partner sophomore Isaac Santitto (Innisfail, Queensland, Australia) advanced to the Doubles Finals.

ECCC Lady Warrior freshmen Natalia Beltran (Bogota, Colombia) and Alejandra Vargas (Bogota Colombia) won three matches to claim the Back Draw Doubles on the women's side.

"All of our players participated at ITA Regionals and played at a high level despite the difficult, hot conditions," said ECCC Head Tennis Coach Jay Pacelli. "I'm particularly proud of Chris Lawrance in singles and Chris and Isaac Santitto in doubles making the finals and further establishing themselves as two of the best players in the region.

"I was also was impressed with newcomers Alejandra Vargas and Natalia Beltran winning the Back Draw Doubles after a tough start in the tournament. Several of our players won early round matches showing the talent both teams have as we prepare for the 2020 season." The East Central men's and women's teams continue their fall seasons with exhibition matches against the teams from Mississippi University for Women at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3, at the ECCC Tennis Complex.

### LADY WARRIORS DEFEAT SOUTHWEST TO COMPLETE SEASON SWEEP

The East Central Lady Warriors defeated Southwest 4-0 Tuesday, Oct. 1, in four-match losing streak and picked up their first shutout of the season.

The match was played on the Soccer Pitch on the ECCC campus. It completed a season sweep for the

Warriors. East Central defeated Andrew in a road match 3-2 on Aug. 27 in Cuthbert, Ga.

Scoring for the Warriors were sophomore midfielder Joel Hill (Newton County), assisted by sophomore forward Terrell Johnson (Jackson, Murrah), and freshman midfielder Raphael Salles (San Paulo, Brazil), assisted by freshman midfielder Hugo Chagas (Fortaleza, Brazil). Freshman Chase Graham (Vicksburg, Warren Central) was in goal for East Central.

### FOOTBALL WARRIORS DEFEAT CO-LIN FOR FIRST TIME IN 10 YEARS

On the legs of JD Martin, the toe of Robens Beauplan, and the back of a tenacious defense. the East Central Warriors ended

10 years of football frustration with a 23-18 win over the No. 15 ranked Copiah-Lincoln Wolves Thursday, Oct. 3, at H.L. Sloan Stadium in Wesson.

Martin, a freshman running back out of Wetumpka, Ala., rushed for 216 yards on 23 carries including runs of 13, 53, 25, 48, 17, and 17 yards. Beauplan, a freshman kicking specialist from Riverdale High School in Lehigh Acre, Fla., was true on three of his four field goal attempts from 30, 20, and 27 yards.

The Warrior defense capitalized on five sacks for a combined loss of 34 yards and an interception to hold Co-Lin to just 300 yards of offense, including 130 through the air. The Wolves entered the contest passing for 231 a game.

Offensively, East Central amassed 451 yards of total offense, including 280 season 4-5 overall and 3-3 in the MACJC South Division.



### ECCC KICKING SPECIALIST BEAUPLAN NAMED POTW TWICE THIS SEASON

For the second time this season, East Central Community College kicking specialist Robens Beauplan has been selected the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Special Teams Player of the Week. The most recent honor comes after the Warriors upset No. 15 Copiah-Lincoln 23-18 Oct. 3 in Wesson.

The freshman from Riverdale High School in Lehigh Acres, Fla., handles the punting, extra points, and field goals for East Central.

In the win over Co-Lin, Beauplan made three of his four field goal attempts from 30, 20, and 27 yards. He made both extra points. He also punted four times for a 57-yard average, including a long of 67 yards and one punt downed inside the 20.

At this point in the season, Beauplan was a perfect 14-of-14 in extra points, 6-of-8 in field goals, and was averaging nearly 42 yards per punt.

### FORMER WARRIOR TIM ANDERSON WINS AL BATTING AVERAGE TITLE

Former East Central Community College Diamond Warrior Tim Anderson won the American League Batting Average Title following the recently completed 2019 Major League Baseball season.

Anderson, the starting shortstop for the Chicago White Sox, hit .335 during the season with 18 home runs, 32 doubles, and 56 runs batted in.

He became only the third White Sox player to win the batting average title. MLB Hall of Famers Frank Thomas (1997) and Luke Appling (1936 and 1943) also accomplished the fore.

1943) also accomplished the fete. A native of Tuscaloosa, Anderson 2019 MACJC Soccer Sophomore All-Star Matches on Saturday, Nov. 16.

The women's match is set for Noon, with the men's match to follow at 2:30 p.m. on the Ridgeland Campus of Holmes Community College.

The East Central players will complete for the North squads.

Those named to the North Division Women All-Stars from East Central were forward Leah Anderson of Leyland, United Kingdom; goalkeeper Emily Pitts of Pearl; midfielder Lia Richardson of Huntingdon, United Kingdom; and midfielder Macey Spencer of Florence.

Brandon Mitchell of Hinds Community College is the head coach.

Those named to the North Division Men All-Stars from East Central were midfielder Jake Cockroft of Kosciusko, midfielder/defender Joel Hill of Newton County, and midfielder Terrell Johnson of Jackson Murrah. Matt Convertino of Holmes Community College is the head coach.

### ECCC'S HERREN IS MACJC WOMEN'S SOCCER PLAYER OF THE WEEK

East Central Community College freshman forward Hannah Herren was voted the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Women's Soccer Player of the Week for her play the week of Oct. 14-20.



A product of Florence High School, Herren picked up a goal and an assist as the Lady Warriors clinched postseason play with a 3-1 win at Northwest on Oct. 15. She followed that with a two goal performance in the final regular season match of the year, a 4-1 home win over Dyersburg State (Tenn.) on Oct. 18.

In her first season at East Central, Herren is tied for second on the team with seven goals and is third in assists with five. the Lady Bears.

East Central also beat Southwest 5-0 in Summit back on Aug. 30. East Central scored a pair of goals in each half in the win. Sophomore midfielder Macey Spencer (Florence) had two goals for the Lady Warriors, while

freshman forward Hannah Herren (Florence) and sophomore forward Leah Anderson (Leyland, United Kingdom) each scored a goal.

### WARRIORS GET SWEEP **OF ANDREW COLLEGE**

The East Central Community College Warrior soccer team defeated the Andrew College Fighting Tigers 2-0 Tuesday, Oct. 1, and in doing so snapped a

through the air for 171 yards and the one score. Sophomore wide receiver Zachery (Dayton, Ohio) caught three of those passes for 81 yards and the one touchdown.

Freshman linebacker Trenton Ladner (Hancock) led the East Central defense with nine total tackles, one and a half sacks, and two and a half tackles for the loss. He also had a forced fumble and a pass breakup. Freshman defensive end John Cartwright (Madison-Ridgeland Academy), sophomore linebacker Ronnie Thomas (Clinton), and sophomore linebacker Payton Rogers (Forest) all had sacks, while freshman nose guard Joshua Ratcliff (Belle Rose, La., Assumption) assisted on a sack.

The Warriors went on to finish the

2013, helping lead the warriors to a State Championship. He was first team All-Region 23 and All-State both seasons, and first team All-American in 2013. He led the nation in batting with a .495 average and was named the National Junior College Athletic Association Male Athlete of the Year in 2013.

Anderson was drafted by the White Sox in 2013 as the 17th overall selection in the Major League Baseball Draft.

### SIX WARRIOR SOCCER PLAYERS NAMED TO ALL-STAR GAMES

Four members of the East Central Community College Lady Warrior soccer team and three members of the Warrior soccer team were selected to play in the



Visit www.ecccathletics.com for more sports coverage.

### WORDS OF A WARRIOR-INTERNATIONAL ATHLETES What is your favorite thing about being in America?





DONATION TO ATHLETICS – Brown Bottling Group of Meridian Director of Channel DONATION TO ATHLETICS – Brown Botting Group of Weindlah Director of Channel Development Kurt Rushing (far left) and General Manager Darrell Harcrow (second from East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart (second from Development Kurt Rushing (far left) and General Manager Darrein Harcrow (second from left) present East Central Community College President Dr. Billy Stewart (second from ECCC Director of Athletics Paul Nixon with a \$15,000 donation to support left) present East Central Community College Fresholdt, Dr. Billy Stewart (second from right) and ECCC Director of Athletics Paul Nixon with a \$15,000 donation to support from support the FOCC activity of Pepsi Cola and Dr. Port right) and ECCC Director of Athletics Paul Nixon with a \$15,000 domation to support the college's athletics programs. Brown Bottling, a distributor for Pepsi Cola and Dr. Pepper college's athletics provider of drinks to the ECCC cafeteria and grill, as well as vortice of the provider of drinks to the ECCC cafeteria and grill, as well as vortice of the provider of drinks to the pr college's athletics programs. Brown Botting, a distributor for Pepsi Cola and Dr. Pepper products, is the sole provider of drinks to the ECCC cafeteria and grill, as well as vending products, is the sole provider of drinks to the Decatur campus. The presentation was made prior to Dult Coast on Thursday. Oct 10 products, is the sole provider of drinks to the ECCC calculated and grill, as well as vending machine drinks and snacks on the Decatur campus. The presentation was made vending machine drinks and snacks on the General's football game with Gulf Coast on Thursday, Oct. 10.

## Wanna Play **Indoor Intramural Volleyball?**

Registration is underway for teams interested in co-ed Indoor Intra-Registration is underway for teams income and female and female players. mural Volleyball. Teams are available in office 122 of Brackeen-Wood . Registration in terms are composed of Brackeen-Wood Cym. Registration forms are available in office 122 of Brackeen-Wood Cym. mural volte, Registration forms are available in online of the second Control of the sec he deadline for team registration is a contact Head Men's begin or Monday, Jan. 6. For more information, contact Head Men's Soccer The deadline to Monday, Jan. 6. For more information, 200 or kthompson@eccc.edu.

# ECCC receives national recognition for student success

East Central Community College is ranked No. 27 in the nation among two-year colleges in preparing students to transfer to a four-year school or turn an Associate Degree into a successful career.

The new study "50 Best Schools for Transferring From Community College to University" was published Oct. 7 at LendingTree.com.

The rankings were based on data from the 513 community and junior colleges across the country with the best graduation rates and transfer rates. From that data, the Top 50 was compiled from "those which awarded more diplomas—or saw more transfers to a four-year university—within a student's first three years of study."

The study showed that 61 percent of the students who enrolled in ECCC in 2014 either transferred out or earned an Associate Degree within three years.

"These community colleges were the very best we found at preparing their students for the next step, whether that's transferring to a four-year school or turning an associate's degree into a budding career," wrote Andrew Pentis.

ECCC was one of four community colleges in Mississippi included in the Top 50.

"Our top priority at East Central Community College is to prepare students for success, whether that be success at a four-year institution or success as they move directly into the workforce," said ECCC President Dr. Billy Stewart. "Our **2020 Vision** is to be 'Nationally Recognized and Locally Preferred' so it's exciting when the efforts of our faculty and staff to ensure student success are recognized nationally." ECCC also leads the state of Mississippi in the success of students after they transfer to one of the four-year public universities in the state.

In August, data released by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) indicated ECCC was the best in the state for the third straight year in preparing students for success at four-year public universities in Mississippi.

Students who transferred from ECCC to a public four-year institution earned the highest cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of all community college transfers in the state of Mississippi in 2019.

Page

Students who transferred from East Central to one of the state's eight public, four-year institutions earned a 3.32 GPA at baccalaureate graduation in 2019.

This marked the third year in a row, and the fifth time in the past seven years, that all students who transferred from ECCC to a public, four-year university in Mississippi earned the highest GPA at baccalaureate graduation of all the state's community colleges.

# Annual report card shows high marks for East Central in several areas

In accordance with Mississippi House Bill No. 1071 from the 2010 legislative session, East Central Community College has released its academic year 2017-2018 Mississippi Community College Performance Profile, or Report Card. The bill created an Education Achievement Council which was established to set education achievement goals for institutions of higher learning and community colleges in the state and to assist in monitoring progress towards those goals through the preparation of annual institutional and state report cards.

The Community College Report Card, designed to reflect the unique mission of community colleges, incorporates measures closely aligned with the Voluntary Framework of Accountability developed by the American Association of Community Colleges. Therefore, each report card includes information for the specific community college, along with corresponding figures for the state system, which includes all 15 Mississippi community colleges. Information contained in the report includes student enrollment, degrees awarded, student success, student retention, student progress, workforce development information, and High School Equivalency and adult basic education statistics, as well as enrollment and success in development or remedial coursework (college readiness).

In the 2017-2018 Community College Report Card, ECCC was among the best in the state in the areas of Student Success, Student Retention, Student Progression, and Remediation Success.

In Student Success, ECCC ranked among the state's elite in percentage of full-time freshmen graduating within three years. The college was also a state leader in overall Student Success, consisting of aggregate graduation and transfer rates.

In Student Retention, East Central was among the best in overall retention rate, particularly in the retention rate of university parallel students seeking transfer to a four-year university.

In Student Progression, ECCC was near the top in student progression toward degree completion by the end of the second enrollment year. In Remediation Success, ECCC was a leader in remediation of mathematics students to successful completion of college algebra.

Other strengths for East Central proportionate to college enrollment were the number of students completing university parallel associate degrees and the number of students trained through non-credit workforce programs.

The 2017-2018 Performance. Profile (Report Card) for ECCC can be found on the college's website at www.eccc.edu/consumer-information. In addition a copy can be obtained from the Office of the President.

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## STRIKE A POSE

■ Why did you choose to attend EC? I chose to go to EC because most of my family went here and all of the women in my family were Centralettes.

What is your favorite thing about EC? My favorite thing about EC is the atmosphere and people and you never really meet a stranger, and you always feel welcome!

What is your favorite meal in the cafeteria? My favorite meal in the cafeteria is the baked chicken on Thursdays.

Who is your favorite faculty/staff member? Why? My favorite staff member would have to be Mr. Girling or Mr. Langley because they always listen to my problems, and always make me



### FEATURED TEACHER

■ Degrees held: Bachelor's of Music Education, Musical Arts, and Secondary Education in Mathematics: 5-9; Master's of Choral Conducting

**Where did you grow up?** Augusta, West Virginia

How long have you been at ECCC? This is my second year.

■ Why did you choose to work at ECCC? Because it was one of my first interviews, and I have always wanted to work at the collegiate level.

**Favorite memory here?** My favorite memory is when Will Parker tried to jump through my window, but instead, he jumped into the window.

■ Interests outside of ECCC? Musical Theater



There really isn't anything terrible about college life other than not having my mom's cooking every night.

■ What is your most embarrassing moment at EC? My most embarrassing moment at EC was

probably the time I was trying to take a quick picture of a slide and the room was so dark. As soon as I took the picture the flash went off and lit up the whole classroom, and everyone turned and looked at me.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in? I'm involved in SBA where I am treasurer, a member of Students for Life, Warrior Corps, and Centralettes!

What is your best memory at EC? My favorite memory at EC so far has been dorm life. Every single night no matter what kind of day I have my roommates never fail to make me cry with laughter every night.

■ What are your plans after EC? After EC I plan on attending Mississippi State University and majoring in business with a focus in management.

> Upcoming Transfer Recruiter Visits

Recruiters from the following universities will visit campus in November:

 Tuesday, Nov. 19, and Wednesday, Nov.
20 – University of West Alabama/Brenda Jones
Thursday, Nov. 21 – University of Mississippi/

University of Mississippi Anna Lauren Heavener They will set up from

10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Mabry Cafeteria lobby. LYDIA BISHOP Sophomore Hometown: Sebastopol Major: Sports Medicine dents/staff to know: My undergraduate singing group almost made the show The Sing-Off.

Any plans for Christmas? I plan on going home to West Virginia to visit with family and friends.



LUCUS ORNDORFF

	Sports Medicine		Director of Choral Activities	
	EAST V		IMUNITY COLI RIOR	a lamin
<b>2019</b>	BASKETI	BALL SC	HEDULE	<u>)</u>
November 14	East MS	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Scooba	4/
November 18	Holmes	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Goodman	2.2
November 22	Chipola College	5 p.m. (Women)	Marianna, FL	
November 25-2		ТВА	Decatur	50
December 2	Holmes	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	1
December 5	East MS	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	
December 9	MS Gulf Coast	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Perkinston	C Mas
December 17	Delgado	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	- Sel
January 9	Pearl River	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Poplarville	E Ch
January 13	Co-Lin	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Wesson	C .
January 16	Jones	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	C IO
January 21	Meridian	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Meridian	C -IT
January 23	Hinds	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	in a
27	Southwest	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Summit	a fill
January 30	MS Gulf Coast	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	6
February 3	Pearl River	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	
February 6	Co-Lin	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	1
February 10	Jones	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Ellisville	c
Thruary 13	Meridian	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	t I
February 17	Hinds	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Utica	C E
February 17 February 20	Southwest	5:30/7:30 p.m.	Decatur	5 - 10



Members of the 2019 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College included (front row, from left) freshman maids Jasmin Brooks of Collinsville and Savannah Jones of Philadelphia; sophomore maids Kayla Baucum of Newton and Beth Fortner of Port Gibson; queen Parker Breland of Union, sophomore maids Abigail Wells of Noxapater and Alexis Gaines of Newton; and freshman maids Alana McMullan of Decatur and Courtney Gill of Carthage; and (back row, from left) escorts Matthew Riley of Brandon, Walker Johnson of Mantee, Gavin Bailey of Decatur, Caleb McGrew of Meridian, Will Chambers of Forest, Joseph Breazeale of Philadelphia, Joel Hill of Decatur, Andrew Phillips of Decatur, and Jona-Mantee, Gavin Bailey of Decatur, Caleb McGrew of Meridian, Will Chambers of Forest, Joseph Breazeale of Philadelphia, Joel Hill of Decatur, Andrew Phillips of Decatur, and Jona-Mantee, Gavin Bailey of Decatur, Caleb McGrew of Meridian, Will Chambers of the ECCC vs. Hinds Community College football game Thursday, Oct. 17.



### EC PHOTOS

Clockwise, at right, students enjoyed a pancakes party in the Mabry Cafeteria; Brian Pace awaits the start of student tailgating; the student section was full to cheer on the Warriors during the football game; Quincy Edmonds and Jada Autman are all smiles during the scavenger hunt; students lined up for free Chick-fil-A sandwiches before the Homecoming game; Jasmin Brooks and Alaina McMullan get ready for the scavenger hunt at



